

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview by Thomas McGinnis, Reg. No. 58026 on 25 February 2011.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend independent claims 93, 147 and 175 as follows:

93. (Currently amended) A system for monitoring a space external to the system, the system comprising:

a microprocessor;

a memory coupled to the microprocessor, the memory including instructions for processing a sensor signal derived from at least one environmental parameter of the space external to the system and the memory including a web server application and an alarm processing program configured to: determine that an alarm condition has not occurred within a first preset time interval; compare, responsive to determining that the alarm condition has not occurred within the first preset time interval, the sensor signal to a threshold on a second preset time interval; and generate an alarm condition where the sensor signal exceeds the threshold; a sensor configured to detect the at least one

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environmental parameter of the space external to the system and configured to generate the sensor signal derived from the at least one detected environmental parameter of the space, the sensor selected from a group consisting of a temperature sensor, a relative humidity sensor, and an air flow sensor; and at least one port for communicating with a network, the at least one port responsive to the microprocessor, the web server application configured to provide a webpage associated with the sensor signal via the at least one port.

147. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a sensor configured to measure ambient conditions with respect to monitored equipment, the sensor physically uncoupled and spaced apart from the monitored equipment and the sensor configured to measure the ambient conditions without use of a bidirectional communication link between the sensor and the monitored equipment, the sensor configured to generate a sensor signal associated with the measured ambient conditions, the sensor selected from a group consisting of a temperature sensor, a relative humidity sensor, and an air flow sensor; at least one microprocessor responsive to the sensor signal; video camera circuitry coupled to the at least one microprocessor, the video camera circuitry configured to acquire an image of the monitored equipment; memory coupled to the at least one microprocessor, the memory including instructions for processing the sensor signal, instructions for processing the image of the monitored equipment, and a web server application; and an alarm processing program configured to: determine that an alarm condition has not occurred within a first preset time interval; compare, responsive to determining that the alarm

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condition has not occurred within the first preset time interval, the sensor signal to a threshold on a second preset time interval; and generate an alarm condition where the sensor signal exceeds the threshold; and at least one network port responsive to the at least one microprocessor and configured for communicating the image of the monitored equipment and the measured ambient conditions in a web page provided by the web server application over a distributed computer network to a remote location for display.

175. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a temperature sensor;

a humidity sensor;

an acoustic sensor;

an airflow sensor;

at least one external sensor interface configured to connect to an external sensor, the external sensor configured to monitor environmental conditions ambient to monitored computer equipment; a web server configured to provide a web page having information derived from at least one of the temperature sensor, the humidity sensor, the acoustic sensor, the air flow sensor, and the external sensor;

and an alarm processing program configured to: determine that an alarm condition has not occurred within a first preset time interval; compare, responsive to determining that the alarm condition has not occurred within the first preset time interval, the sensor signal to a threshold on a second preset time interval; and generate an alarm condition where the sensor signal exceeds the threshold;

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a simple network management protocol module configured to communicate using a simple network management protocol; at least one network interface responsive to the simple network management protocol module and configured to access a distributed computer network; and an alarm module responsive to at least one of the temperature sensor, the humidity sensor, the acoustic sensor, the air flow sensor, and the external sensor and configured to send an alarm notification via the web server.

Reasons for Allowance

Terminal Disclaimer

2. The terminal disclaimer filed on 07/30/2010 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of 10/775,898 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The closest prior art of record (Beheshti et al., U. S. Patent No. 5955946) and (Venkatraman et al, U. S. Patent No. 6139177) do not teach nor suggest in detail a system for monitoring a space external to the system comprising a sensor configured to detect at least one environmental parameter of the space external to the system wherein the sensor is selected from a group consisting of a temperature sensor, a relative humidity sensor and an air flow sensor and an alarm processing program configured to: determine that an alarm condition has not occurred within a first preset time interval; compare, responsive to determining that the alarm condition has not occurred within the first

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preset time interval, the sensor signal to a threshold on a second preset time interval; and generate an alarm condition where the sensor signal exceeds the threshold.

Beheshti and Venkatraman respectively only teach generic alarm management unit for monitoring network components and a device access and control management using embedded web access functionality. Thus the prior arts of record taking singly or in combination do not teach or suggest the above-stated limitation taking wholly in combination with all the elements of each independent claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Claims 93-178 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohamed Ibrahim whose telephone number is 571-270-1132. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William C. Vaughn, Jr. can be reached on 571-272-3922. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/M. I./

Examiner, Art Unit 2444

/William C. Vaughn, Jr./

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2444